PLAN,

PROSPECTUS, AND TERMS,

FOR THE

ESTABLISHMENT OF A PUBLIC CEMETERY,

AT THE

CITY OF BALTIMORE,

TO BE CALLED

THE GREEN MOUNT CEMETERY.

Incorporated by the Legislature of Maryland.

BALTIMORE:
JOHN D. TOY, PRINTER.

1838.

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PROSPECTUS

OF THE

GREEN MOUNT CEMETERY.

The Legislature of Maryland, at its last session incorporated a company by the name of 'The Proprietors of the Green Mount Cemetery,' whose object is the establishment of a public cemetery, upon the plan of 'Père-la-Chaise,' in France, and 'Mount Auburn' and 'Laurel Hill,' in this country.

The importance of such an establishment in the vicinity of a large city is universally admitted. Improvements encroach upon the ordinary burying grounds—the quiet mansions of the dead become surrounded with the crowded dwellings of the living: and it not unfrequently happens

that the value of the grave-yard for building lots, causes the disinterment of its tenants and their removal to a more remote spot, or leaves the crumbled coffin and its contents to be shovelled out in digging the foundations of the houses that have usurped their resting place.

The public cemeteries already named, are spots containing many acres, properly protected, ornamented with trees, shrubs and flowers, intersected by drives and walks, and kept at all times in the best cultivation and order. They not only furnish a safe, permanent and quiet burial place, but they afford agreeable and attractive walks. They take from the grave-yard its gloom, by uniting with it the beauties of the garden and the landscape; and not only have they been found convenient in respect to municipal economy, but they exert a strong, happy, and healthful influence upon the morals of the community.

With the purpose of establishing a public cemetery upon this plan, the company have purchased from the heirs of the late Robert Oliver, his well known country residence, Green Mount, adjacent to the northern boundary of the city, and lying midway between its eastern and western limits. Few spots could have been selected, better situated with regard to the convenience of every part of Baltimore. The portion intended for the cemetery, is about sixty acres in extent,—larger than

either Père-la-Chaise, Mount Auburn or Laurel Hill,—includes the mansion house and other buildings—and is bounded by Hoffman street on the south, Ensor street on the east, the York avenue on the west, and extends northwardly to the city line. The late proprietor spared no pains or expense in the improvement of this estate during his life, and the company find it prepared most admirably for the purpose to which it is to be appropriated. Upon a considerable part of it, the original forest trees still remain—other portions were planted in Mr. Oliver's life-time; and there are upon the property ample nurseries to set all the rest of it in woods, should it be deemed desirable to do so.

Whether the plan will succeed, must depend upon the support that the public may afford. The purchase of so large a body of land, so highly improved, and lying within the limits of the city, has necessarily been a very costly one: and yet to have sought a more remote spot, would have been to deprive the cemetery of interest to those, to whom the cost of a carriage to visit their lots would be an object. The company are obliged to ascertain by an early day, whether the amount of patronage will be sufficient to enable them to carry out their plan: for it is public patronage alone, that can justify an undertaking of the kind: and they are obliged to fix the first of

October, as the day by which they must decide whether the plan can be carried on or must be abandoned—and should it so happen, that by that time a sufficient number of lots are not subscribed for, the obligations of such persons as may have subscribed will be released, and the property disposed of for other purposes. A sanguine hope is entertained, however, that the expectations which have been raised, by the success of the undertakings in other cities, will not be disappointed—but that the Green Mount Cemetery will grow to be an object of value and interest to this community, and honourable to the state.

Should the encouragement received be sufficient to induce the company to prosecute the plan, it is proposed to surround the cemetery with a high, permanent enclosure—to provide for its being properly guarded from intrusion or outrage—to erect a handsome and imposing entrance—to lay it out in drives and walks—to build a chapel and receiving vault—to plant the grounds with rare trees, shrubs and flowers—to ornament it with statues and monuments, and to keep it in the highest state of cultivation and order; in fine, to spare no expense that the public patronage will justify in recommending it to public notice and approval. A map has been prepared of the premises, and is exhibited at the exchange and the

principal book stores in the city. From this it will be seen that the present beautiful avenues—thickly bordered as they are with trees, and ready at once for use—have been adopted in the location of the burial lots. It is intended, however, to lay out the entire space in walks and drives, and to locate lots along them. The number of lots now laid out is six hundred and sixty-eight.

The price of a burial lot is one hundred dollars, and the terms on which it will be held, its size, &c. are explained in the accompanying subscription paper.

Subscription papers are left at the exchange and the principal book-stores, and the public will be called on individually in the course of a few days.

On and after the sixth day of June, the premises will be open daily, Sunday excepted, for the inspection of persons wishing to become proprietors of lots, but only between the hours of four and seven in the afternoon, until further notice.

No boys, unless in company with their parents, nor females unless accompanied by gentlemen, will be admitted within the gates; and on no account, whatever, will any person be permitted to pluck fruits, or flowers, or otherwise injure the premises.

The hall of the mansion-house will also be thrown open to the inspection of visitors. A plat

of the grounds, shewing the location of burial lots will be there exhibited; and a person will be in attendance, authorized to receive subscriptions.

SAM'L MOORE,

President of the proprietors of Green Mount Cemetery.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION

FOR LOTS IN

GREEN MOUNT CEMETERY.

We, the undersigned, do hereby severally agree with 'The Proprietors of the Green Mount Cemetery,' to purchase respectively a burial lot each, in the Green Mount Cemetery, and to pay therefor the sum of one hundred dollars, in the following instalments, that is to say, fifty dollars on the first day of November, 1838, twenty-five dollars on the 1st day of May, 1839, and twenty-five dollars on the 1st day of November following. And inasmuch as the plan of a Public Cemetery can only be successfully prosecuted through the aid of subscriptions like these hereby made, 'The Proprietors of the Green Mount Cemetery' reserve to themselves the right of vacating this contract, should the number of subscribers on the 1st day of October next not justify the prosecution of the plan.

Should it be determined by the Proprietors to prosecute the plan, the names of the persons who shall have subscribed for burial lots on and before the first day of October next, will be placed in a

box and drawn therefrom, when the person whose name is drawn first will have the first choice, the person whose name is drawn second, the second choice, and so on.

A day will forthwith be fixed for making choice of lots, previous to which the lots will be staked out on the ground, and numbered. A person not exercising his right of choice in its order on the day appointed, will be postponed until all other subscribers shall have chosen in their turns on such day. Those neglecting to choose on the day appointed, may choose on any day afterwards, and will be entitled to the choice made by them in the order in which they shall report it to the Treasurer. Should the Company determine on the first of October to proceed with the undertaking, the subscribers will be required to give their notes of that date for the instalments of the purchase money, payable at the times aforesaid, and a receipt and certificate will be given them, that on the payment of said notes they will be entitled to, and receive a deed in fee simple, with the conditions following.

The following are the conditions, limitations, and privileges attending the ownership of a burial lot.

1st. The proprietor, in enclosing the same, shall place the enclosure upon the lot itself, so as not to encroach upon any adjacent lot without the con-

sent of its proprietor, or upon any path, walk, or alley of the Cemetery.

2d. The lots shall not be *less* in size than fourteen by eighteen feet, or two hundred and fifty-two square feet.

3d. The lots shall not be used for any other purpose than a place for the burial of the dead; and no trees within the lot shall be cut down or destroyed without the consent of the President and Board of Managers.

4th. The proprietor of a lot shall have the right to erect stones, monuments, or sepulchral structures, and to cultivate trees, shrubs and plants in the same. A gardener will be always in attendance at the Cemetery, to attend to the wishes of the owners of lots in this particular.

5th. If any trees or shrubs in said lot shall, by means of their roots, branches, or otherwise, become detrimental to the adjacent lots or avenues, or inconvenient or dangerous to passengers, it shall be the duty of the President and Board of Managers for the time being, and they shall have the right to enter into the said lot and remove the trees and shrubs aforesaid, or such parts thereof as are dangerous, inconvenient or detrimental.

6th. If any monument, or effigy, or any structure whatever, or any inscription to be placed in or upon the said lot, shall be deemed by the

President and Board of Managers for the time being, to be offensive or improper, the said Presinent and Board of Managers shall have the right, and it shall be their duty to enter upon the said lot and remove the said improper object or objects, inscription or inscriptions.

7th. The proprietor of a lot, and the members of his family, shall at all times have free ingress into the Cemetery, without charge, and the proprietor of a lot shall be entitled to receive a ticket, upon application to the Treasurer, without charge, which shall so admit him or her and the members of his or her household, on foot or in a vehicle, but not on horseback.

8th. Proprietors of lots, and members of their household, and persons accompanying them, will be the only persons admitted on Sundays and holydays, except when funerals take place, when the procession accompanying the deceased, whether proprietors or not, will be admitted without charge, and as well on the days of the week as on Sundays and holidays.

9th. When the full price of a lot is paid, the proprietor will receive a deed in fee simple, subject to the conditions and limitations, and with the privileges above and herein mentioned, and subject to the provisions of the Act of the General Assembly of Maryland, passed at December Session, 1837, entitled, An Act to Incorporate the Proprietors of the Green Mount Cemetery.

Extracts from the Act of Incorporation.

Sec. 5. *And be it enacted,* That no street, lanes or alleys, heretofore laid out, roads or canals of any sort, shall be opened through that part of the property of said corporation, so to be exclusively appropriated to the purposes of a cemetery, provided, nothing herein shall authorize said corporation to obstruct any public road or street, lane or alley, now actually opened, and used as such; *and provided,* that this exemption from the passage and opening of streets, alleys, and public roads through said cemetery, shall be confined to the area contained between the York road on the west, Ensor street on the east, and to the north of Hoffman street, within the limits of said city of Baltimore.

Sec. 6. *And be it enacted,* That any person who shall wilfully destroy, mutilate, deface, injure or remove any tomb, monument, grave-stone, or other structure, placed in the cemetery aforesaid, or any fence, railing, or other work, for the protection, or ornament of any tomb, monument, grave-stone, or other structure aforesaid, or shall wilfully destroy, cut, break, or remove any tree, shrub, or plant within the limits of said cemetery, or shall shoot, or discharge any gun, or other fire-arm within the said limits, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanour, and shall, upon conviction

thereof, before any justice of the peace of Baltimore county, be punished by a fine at the discretion of the justice, according to the aggravation of the offence, of not less than five, nor more than fifty dollars.

SEC. 8. *And be it enacted.* That every lot conveyed in said cemetery, shall be held by the proprietor for the purpose of sepulture alone, and for none other as real estate, and shall not be subject to attachment or execution.